

## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO†

### EXCERPTS FROM OUR STATE MEDICAL JOURNAL

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#### EXCERPTS FROM EDITORIAL NOTES

**Venereal Disease.**—It is important that the American nonmedical public be shaken out of its false modesty regarding venereal disease. This object is being attained to a remarkable degree as a result of the Army and Navy policy combined with the work of the Commission on Training Camp Activities. We are being forced, as a nation, to take a sane and scientific attitude toward the subject. Syphilis and gonorrhea constitute one of our chief sanitary and public health problems. . . .

**Universal Service.**—Every patriotic American believes today in universal service as a war measure. This, in the broad sense, simply means complete and efficient organization and mobilization for war of all the resources of the country, both human and material. It means "work or fight" for men in draft age. It means suppression of non-essential activities of all sorts. It means for each man and woman to get the maximum physical efficiency personally. It means a conscious development of individual patriotism. It means intelligent and constructive study of our personal and national ideals. It means scrutiny of national problems and policies. It means informed interest in politics, in social activities of relief and charity, in local and general social problems of civics, morals, religion, and health. It means, in short, a literal reading of the words *universal service*, making every person contribute his utmost to himself and his fellows in the way of physical, intellectual, and moral improvement. *That is universal service.* . . .

#### EXCERPTS FROM ORIGINAL AND OTHER ARTICLES

*From an Article on "The Prevention of Blindness Work of the State Industrial Accident Commission," by Will J. French, San Francisco.*—The earliest reference to "Safety First" I have been able to find is in Chapter 22, verse 8, of Deuteronomy, the fifth book of Moses, where these words appear: "When thou buildest a new house, then thou shalt make a battlement for thy roof, that thou bring not blood upon thine house, if any man fall from thence."

The foundation of English common law is taken from the five books of Moses, from Genesis to Deuteronomy, and we can there read much that represents the highest ideals of present-day civilization. If they had used emery wheels in those day, I think we would be able to read a verse following the one quoted about like this: "When thou grindest tools on the emery wheel, then thou shalt use a hood over the wheel and goggles over thine eyes that thou bring not blindness upon thine house because of dust entering the windows of thy soul."

The National Safety Council estimates there is one worker killed every fifteen minutes, day and night, in the United States, and one injured every sixteen seconds, day and night. This gives us more than 30,000 killed and about 2,000,000 injured. It is estimated that out of this number there are 200,000 eye injuries. . . .

*From an Article on "A Plea for a Complete Urological Diagnosis at One Sitting" (Preliminary Communication), by Martin Krotoszyner, M.D., and George W. Hartman, M.D., San Francisco.*—In a recent comprehensive treatise,

(Continued on Back Advertising Section, Page 32)

## BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA†

By F. N. SCATENA, M. D.

Secretary-Treasurer

### Board Proceedings

A regular meeting of the Board of Medical Examiners was held in San Francisco, June 28 to July 1, 1943, at which time written examinations were conducted for physicians and surgeons, drugless practitioners, and chiroprodists. One hundred and thirteen physicians and surgeons, one drugless practitioner, and five chiroprodists presented themselves for examination at this meeting.

Legal hearings were conducted by the Board on charges of unprofessional conduct. The following changes were made in the status of licentiatees:

Atkinson, John Ames, D. P. (Alleged violation of probation.) On June 30, 1943, Doctor Atkinson was placed on probation for five years, with suspension of license ordered to take effect for one year from July 10, 1943, or if court action taken, then suspension to start ten days after the date of termination of such court action.

Glaeser, William E., M. D. (Alleged illegal operation.) On June 29, 1943, found guilty and license revoked.

Koerber, Lillie Louise, M. D. (Alleged illegal operation.) On June 30, 1943, found guilty and license revoked. Doctor Koerber was granted a stay of execution to and including July 10, 1943.

Weaver, Darrington, M. D. (Record of conviction.) On June 28, 1943, found guilty and his certificate revoked.

The regular meeting of the Board of Medical Examiners was held at the Elks Club, Los Angeles, August 9 to 12, 1943, at which written examinations, legal hearings, and other administrative business were conducted.

### News

"Drugless practitioners may legally sign death certificates, according to an opinion released today by Attorney-General Robert W. Kenny. Kenny's opinion was given to the Board of Medical Examiners. Kenny pointed out that the courts of this State had never ruled on the legality of the question. 'In thus making it possible for the drugless practitioner to sign death certificates,' Kenny wrote, 'it should of course be realized that the implication is not to be conveyed that such drugless practitioners may call themselves or advertise themselves as "physicians," or that they may practice "medicine." A drugless practitioner receives his license from the Board of Medical Examiners,' wrote Kenny. 'By law, the mode of treatment of human diseases, injuries and deformities employed by drugless practitioners is recognized. It is difficult for me to believe,' Kenny stated, 'that a drugless practitioner in attendance on such a patient should not be qualified to file the certificate of death as well as the medical certificate.' " (Chico Enterprise, June 23, 1943.)

"Attorney-General Robert W. Kenny declared today in an opinion to the State Board of Medical Examiners that the law which prohibits wholesale manufacturers or distributors of lenses and optical supplies from acting as dispensing opticians or optometrists to be unconstitutional on the ground that it is discriminatory. (San Francisco Call-Bulletin, June 30, 1943.)

(Continued in Back Advertising Section, Page 45)

† This column strives to mirror the work and aims of colleagues who bore the brunt of Association activities some twenty-five years ago. It is hoped that such presentation will be of interest to both old and new members.

† The office addresses of the California State Board of Medical Examiners are printed in the roster on advertising page 6. News items are submitted by the Secretary of the Board.